

C. Characteristics of undergraduate students

William Paterson University meets the higher education needs of New Jersey high school graduates who are looking for an outstanding college education closer to home. Last fall showed a marked increase in applications to the University: 6,328 undergraduate applications were received, 3,834 students were accepted and 1,204 first-time, full-time, first-year students enrolled. An additional 863 new transfer students, 74 second degree and 141 readmitted students were also welcomed to the campus.

1. Mean math and verbal SAT scores

SAT scores are one of the criteria used in the admission decision process for new undergraduate students. The majority of first-time, full-time, first-year students, 68.1 percent or 839 students, met all admission criteria and were regular admitted students with average verbal SAT scores of 516 and average math SAT scores of 528. A growing honors program enrolled 100 new first-time, full-time, first-year students with combined SAT scores of 1184.

An additional 19.9 percent were admitted as special admit students using additional admission criteria. Some were sponsored students who have special abilities such as art, music or athletic aptitude that complement a number of University programs. An additional 8.6 percent were Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) first-year students and smaller percents of new students were admitted as International and Nontraditional or older students.

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Table II.C.1:
Mean Math and Verbal SAT for First-Time Freshmen,
by Admission Status and Overall, Fall 2008

	Full-Time Students						Part-Time Students					
	<u>Math</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Reading</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Writing</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Math</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Reading</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Writing</u>	<u>N</u>
Regular Admits	527.9	839	516.0	839	505.8	801	446.3	134	431.4	134	432.9	131
EOF Admits	432.6	103	420.1	103	409.4	83						
Special Admits	442.0	238	433.0	238	433.4	227	465.0	2	415.0	2	410.0	2
All Admits	502.3	1,180	490.9	1,180	483.8	1,111	446.5	136	431.2	136	432.6	133
Missing Scores		24		24		93		5		5		8

Source: SURE Fall Enrollment file

2. Basic skills testing and remediation

Academic support services offered through the University's Academic Support Center, Education Enrichment Center, and discipline-based learning centers such as the Science Enrichment Center help students succeed in their choices of academic programs. In addition, for a number of our first-time, full-time, first-year students help comes in the form of a basic skills course. Before starting classes a student's need for developmental courses is established. Students who have VSAT scores equal to or greater than 550 and an Academic Index (AI) of 215 and above are exempt from reading and writing

placement tests. Those with MSAT scores equal to or better than 600 and an AI of 215 or higher do not take math placement tests. Those who do not meet these criteria are tested using Accuplacer.

This past fall, 968 or 11.1 percent of William Paterson's undergraduates were enrolled in one or more basic skills courses. For those who were first-time, full-time, first-year students almost half required some help. Computation and Reading are the areas in which students most frequently need assistance. Students requiring these courses are closely monitored to ensure that courses are successfully completed during their first year attending William Paterson. This past fall 92 percent of those enrolled in basic skills reading courses passed the course, 90 percent passed the English course and 56 percent passed basic skills math. Those who do not initially pass their basic skills courses are immediately re-enrolled in the following semester. Students who successfully complete their basic skills requirements are as successful at college level work as other students who did not have any basic skills requirements.

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Table IIC.2 Enrollment In Remediation Courses

1. Name of basic skills placement test administered and criteria (if any) for selecting test takers in fall 2008 Accuplacer

2. Total Number of Undergraduate Students Enrolled in Fall 2008

Total Fall 2008 Undergraduate Enrollment	Number of Students Enrolled in One or More Remedial Courses	% of Total
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8,741	968	11.1%
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Total Enrollment = includes all students, FT, PT, returning, transfer, etc.

3. Total number of First-time, Full-time (FTFT) students enrolled in remediation in fall 2008

Total Number of FTFT Students	Number of FTFT Students Enrolled in One or More Remedial Courses	Percent of FTFT Enrolled in One or More Remedial Course
1,204	596	49.5%

4. First-time, Full-time students (FTFT) enrolled in remediation in fall 2008 by subject area

Subject Area	Number of FTFT Enrolled In:	Percent of all FTFT Enrolled In:
Computation	407	33.8%
Algebra	0	0.0%
Reading	298	24.8%
Writing	115	9.6%
English	0	0

Note: Percentages are computed using the total number provided in part 3.

Source: SURE Fall Enrollment file

3. Race/ethnicity, sex and age

The diversity of New Jersey's population is embraced in the University's mission and reflected in the University's enrollment figures. In fall 2008, 53 percent of undergraduates were White; 18.1 percent were Latino/a; 13.9 percent were African American; 5.9 percent were Asian and almost 1 percent were international students.

At the graduate level 72.3 percent were White, 8.1 Hispanic, 4.7 percent African American and 2.9 percent identified themselves as Asian. An additional 2.6 were international or non-resident aliens and 9.4 percent declined to report the information.

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Table II.C.3.a

Undergraduate Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity, Fall 2008

	<u>White</u>		<u>African American</u>		<u>Hispanic</u>		<u>Asian</u>		<u>Native American</u>		<u>Non Resident Alien</u>		<u>Race Unknown</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>Num</u>	<u>Pct</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Pct</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Pct</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Pct</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Pct</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Pct</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Pct</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Pct</u>
Full-time	3,831	52.9%	1,045	14.4%	1,288	17.8%	428	5.9%	8	0.1%	71	1.0%	570	7.9%	7,241	100.0%
Part-time	803	53.5%	172	11.5%	293	19.5%	84	5.6%	3	0.2%	7	0.5%	138	9.2%	1,500	100.0%
Total	4,634	53.0%	1,217	13.9%	1,581	18.1%	512	5.9%	11	0.1%	78	0.9%	708	8.1%	8,741	100.0%

Like many public senior degree granting institutions around the country, more than half of William Paterson's undergraduates, 55.6 percent, were female. The average age of undergraduates was 22.6 years and 55.7 percent of all undergraduates were 21 years or younger and almost 9 percent were 30 years or older.

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Table II.C.3.b

Undergraduate Enrollment by Sex, Fall 2008

<u>Full-time</u>					<u>Part-time</u>					<u>Total</u>				
<u>Male</u>	<u>Pct</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Pct</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Pct</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Pct</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Pct</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Pct</u>	<u>Total</u>
3,283	45.3%	3,958	54.7%	7,241	598	39.9%	902	60.1%	1,500	3,881	44.4%	4,860	55.6%	8,741

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Table II.C.3.c

Undergraduate Enrollment by Age, Fall 2008

		<u>LT 18</u>	<u>18-19</u>	<u>20-21</u>	<u>22-24</u>	<u>25-29</u>	<u>30-34</u>	<u>35-39</u>	<u>40-49</u>	<u>50-64</u>	<u>65+</u>	<u>Unknown</u>	<u>Total</u>
Full-time	<u>Num</u>	6	2,086	2,474	1,902	500	110	56	86	19	0	2	7,241
	<u>Pct</u>	0.1%	28.8%	34.2%	26.3%	6.9%	1.5%	0.8%	1.2%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Part-time	<u>Num</u>	62	155	89	370	333	164	95	157	71	3	1	1,500
	<u>Pct</u>	4.1%	10.3%	5.9%	24.7%	22.2%	10.9%	6.3%	10.5%	4.7%	0.2%	0.1%	100.0%
Total	<u>Num</u>	68	2,241	2,563	2,272	833	274	151	243	90	3	3	8,741
	<u>Pct</u>	0.8%	25.6%	29.3%	26.0%	9.5%	3.1%	1.7%	2.8%	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%

The diversity of the student body is also reflected in the wide variety of cultural and social activities sponsored by such University offices as the Women's Center and the many student clubs such as the Muslim Student Association, Italian Club, OLAS (Organization of Latin American Students), SABLE (Sisters for Awareness, Black Leadership, & Equity), Spanish Club as well as many others <http://ww2.wpunj.edu/Studentservices/studentactv/clubs.htm>. It is also seen in specific academic majors such as Asian Studies, African, African American, and Caribbean Studies, Latin American and Latino Studies, Women's Studies and the new critical languages initiative —Arabic, Japanese, Chinese, Hindi,

Korean, Persian, Russian and Turkish— for those majoring in teacher education. A cross cultural perspective is infused in majors such as Spanish, French and Francophile Studies, Anthropology, International Business, Sociology, History and Political Science as well as many more.

4. Numbers of students receiving financial assistance under each state-funded aid program

Several revenue sources support William Paterson's operations but two make up the bulk of the University's revenues -- funding from the State of New Jersey and tuition and fees -- and the two are intricately tied to each other. As the State's funding for higher education declines, colleges and universities are ever more dependent upon tuition and fees to support their activities. For many of our students' families this means financial aid is an extremely important component of how they will pay for their college education. Almost 7 out of 10 undergraduates attending William Paterson last year received some form of financial aid to help pay for college. Still many supplemented their awards with paid employment on- and off-campus and additional loans.

In FY 2008 18,522 awards were made totaling \$70,860,308 including some other loans (SMART, ACG, EOF graduate students etc.) not listed in this table. Approximately 18 percent of these awards, \$12,467,844, were State of New Jersey funded.

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Table II.C.4:
Financial Aid from State, Federal & Institution-Funded Programs, FY 2008

	<u>Recipients</u>	<u>Awards</u>	<u>Dollars(\$)</u>	<u>\$/Recipient</u>	<u>\$/Award</u>
<u>STATE PROGRAMS</u>					
TAG	1,968	3,490	7,259,456	3,688.75	2,080.07
EOF	394	730	457,692	1,161.65	626.98
Bloustein Scholars	43	83	38,595	897.56	465.00
Urban Scholars	92	174	80,910	879.46	465.00
NJCLASS Loans		489	4,517,728		9,238.71
NJ Stars II	19		74,448	3,918.32	
OSRP	17		39,015	2,295.00	
<u>FEDERAL PROGRAMS</u>					
Pell Grants	2,218		6,357,000	2,866.10	
College Work Study	221		336,000	1,520.36	
Perkins Loans	171		147,000	859.65	
SEOG	943		506,000	536.59	
Stafford Loans (Subsidized)	3,813		15,510,000	4,067.66	
Stafford Loans (Unsubsidized)	2,315		10,118,000	4,370.63	
PLUS Loans	507		4,489,000	8,854.04	
<u>INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS</u>					
Grants/Scholarships	2,876		7,301,000	2,538.60	
Loans	0		0		

Source: HESAA System Files for state programs, NJIPEDS form #41 for federal & institutional programs

The University helps as well by dispersing more than \$7,301,000 in institutional funds. The bulk of these funds are in the form of scholarships. The Office of Scholarships goal “is to provide support and guidance and to serve as an additional resource to student scholars enrolled at William Paterson University. We provide services to more than 800 William Paterson University scholars who are recipients of our various institutional merit-based scholarships for incoming students in addition to administering and monitoring more than 200 Foundation and Academic Departmental Scholarships.” For more information please see <http://ww2.wpunj.edu/scholarships/>

5. Percentage of students who are NJ residents

William Paterson University predominantly serves the citizens of New Jersey. The full-time, first-year class is reflective of the entire undergraduate population; nearly all, 96.6 percent, are from New Jersey and more than half of all undergraduates, 54.7 percent, originate from Bergen and Passaic counties.

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Table II.C.5
First-time Full-time Freshmen in Fall 2008
Enrollment by State Residence

<u>State Residents</u>	<u>Non-State Residents</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>% State Residents</u>
1,163	41	1,204	96.6%

